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PP RUEHFK
DE RUEHKO #6649 3252238
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 212238Z NOV 06
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8509
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
RUCPDOG/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUYNAAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
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RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA AB JA PRIORITY
INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 8890
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 2300
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 4952
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 1389
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USTR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE;
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PACOM HONOLULU FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ADVISOR

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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION - BUSH FOREIGN POLICY - TOKYO

LEAD STORIES: Tuesday morning's Asahi front-paged remarks reportedly made by President Bush to Chinese President Hu in Hanoi Sunday, quoting Bush as telling Hu that the end of the Korean War can be officially declared if North Korea gives up its nuclear programs.

1. "Bush Takes Flexible Line After Midterm Elections"
Takashi Sadahiro, correspondent of the top-circulation, moderate Yomiuri, in a report from Bogor, Indonesia, wrote (11/21): "President Bush returned home after visiting Indonesia Monday for talks with President Yudhoyono and completing a tour of three Southeast Asian nations. Considerable international attention had been focused on the president's first foreign tour after the Republican defeat in the midterm elections, particularly how Washington would deal with the North Korean nuclear issue. After his series of meetings with foreign leaders on the sidelines of the APEC forum and elsewhere, it became clear that President Bush has shifted from a demanding and hard-line policy to an approach of cooperation and flexibility."

SCHIEFFER